

J. ROBERT KERREY
NEBRASKA

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2704

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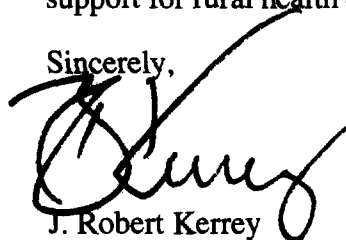
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Room 222
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Sir/Madam:

In reference to **CC Docket No. 96-45**, specifically the Federal Communications Commission's request for further information on universal service issues and telemedicine, I am forwarding informal data summaries from several Nebraska telemedicine providers.

I hope this information is helpful to the FCC as it develops final regulations on universal service support for rural health care providers.

Sincerely,



J. Robert Kerrey

cc: See attached list

Enclosures

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Service List

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt,
Chairman
Federal Communications
Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814
Washington, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Rachelle B.
Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications
Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Susan Ness,
Commissioner
Federal Communications
Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 832
Washington, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Julia Johnson,
Commissioner
Florida Public Service
Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Gerald Gunter Building
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

The Honorable Kenneth McClure,
Commissioner
Missouri Public Service
Commission
301 W. High Street, Suite 530
Jefferson City, MO 65101

The Honorable Sharon L. Nelson,
Chairman
Washington Utilities and
Transportation Commission
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

The Honorable Laska

Schoenfelder, Commissioner
South Dakota Public Utilities
Commission
State Capitol, 500 E. Capitol
Street
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

Martha S. Hogerty
Public Counsel for the State of
Missouri
P.O. Box 7800
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Paul E. Pederson, State Staff
Chair
Missouri Public Service
Commission
P.O. Box 360
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Lisa Boehley
Federal Communications
Commission
2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8605
Washington, D.C. 20554

Charles Bolle
South Dakota Public Utilities
Commission
State Capitol, 500 E. Capitol
Street
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

Deonne Bruning
Nebraska Public Service
Commission
300 The Atrium
1200 N Street, P.O. Box 94927
Lincoln, NE 68509-4927

James Casserly
Federal Communications

Commission
Office of Commissioner Ness
1919 M Street, Room 832
Washington, D.C. 20554

John Clark
Federal Communications
Commission
2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8619
Washington, D.C. 20554

Bryan Clopton
Federal Communications
Commission
2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8615
Washington, D.C. 20554

Irene Flannery
Federal Communications
Commission
2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8922
Washington, D.C. 20554

Daniel Gonzalez
Federal Communications
Commission
Office of Commissioner Chong
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

Emily Hoffnar
Federal Communications
Commission
2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8623
Washington, D.C. 20554

L. Charles Keller
Federal Communications
Commission
2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8918
Washington, D.C. 20554

Lori Kenyon
Alaska Public Utilities
Commission

1016 West Sixth Avenue, Suite
400
Anchorage, AK 99501

David Krech
Federal Communications
Commission
2025 M Street, N.W., Room 7130
Washington, D.C. 20554

Debra M. Kriete
Pennsylvania Public Utilities
Commission
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Diane Law
Federal Communications
Commission
2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8920
Washington, D.C. 20554

Mark Long
Florida Public Service
Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Gerald Gunter Building
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Robert Loube
Federal Communications
Commission
2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8914
Washington, D.C. 20554

Samuel Loudenslager
Arkansas Public Service
Commission
P.O. Box 400
Little Rock, AR 72203-0400

Sandra Makeeff
Iowa Utilities Board
Lucas State Office Building
Des Moines, IA 50319

Philip F. McClelland

Pennsylvania Office of Consumer
Advocate
1425 Strawberry Square
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Michael A. McRae
D.C. Office of the People's
Counsel
1133 15th Street, N.W. -- Suite
500
Washington, D.C. 20005

Tejal Mehta
Federal Communications
Commission
2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8625
Washington, D.C. 20554

Terry Monroe
New York Public Service
Commission
3 Empire Plaza
Albany, NY 12223

John Morabito
Deputy Division Chief,
Accounting and Audits
Federal Communications
Commission
2000 L Street, N.W., Suite 812
Washington, D.C. 20554

Mark Nadel
Federal Communications
Commission
2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8916
Washington, D.C. 20554

John Nakahata
Federal Communications
Commission
Office of the Chairman
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814

Lee Palagyi
Washington Utilities and
Transportation Commission

1300 South Evergreen Park Drive
S.W.
Olympia, WA 98504

Kimberly Parker
Federal Communications
Commission
2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8609
Washington, D.C. 20554

Barry Payne
Indiana Office of the Consumer
Counsel
100 North Senate Avenue, Room
N501
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2208

Jeanine Poltronieri
Federal Communications
Commission
2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8924
Washington, D.C. 20554

James Bradford Ramsay
National Association of
Regulatory Utility
Commissioners
P.O. Box 684
Washington, D.C. 20044-0684

Brian Roberts
California Public Utilities
Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Gary Seigel
Federal Communications
Commission
2000 L Street, N.W., Suite 812
Washington, D.C. 20554

Richard Smith
Federal Communications
Commission
2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8605
Washington, D.C. 20554

Pamela Szymczak
Federal Communications
Commission
2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8912
Washington, D.C. 20554

Lori Wright
Federal Communications
Commission
2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8603
Washington, D.C. 20554

Questions to Address:

1. Name of project:

State wide perception of issues

2. Please list each of the project's sites:

Name of Site:

State in which it is located:

Nebraska

Please answer the following questions for each of your sites.
Use additional sheets if necessary.

3. What is the nearest city of population equal to or greater than 50,00 in your state, and approximately how far are you from its boundary?

City: _____ Distance from city boundary: _____

4. Name of the project's telecommunications service provider:

5. Level of telecommunications service the project is currently using: (For example, voice grade, 144 Kbps (ISDN), 384 Kbps, T-1 or equivalent)

6. Charges for telecommunications service:

Is there a monthly charge? No ☐ Yes ☒

If yes, how much is the charge?

*Service charge of \$2-3/mo with
have been given & quoted*Is there a usage-based charge? No ☐ Yes ☐

If yes, how much is the charge? _____

Is there a distance component (such as a per-mile fee) of the charge? No ☐ Yes ☐

If yes, how much is the charge? _____

Was there an installation fee? No ☐ Yes ☐

If yes, how much was the charge? _____

Is the charge the regular tariffed rate, or is there a discount from the telecommunications provider? Tariffed ☐ Discount ☐

If there is a discount, how much is it? _____

7. How does the project use telecommunications in the delivery of health care? (For example -- to send x-rays, distribute public health information, or perform video consultations. Please identify any occasional or episodic uses, such as might result from an outbreak of disease.)

*All of the above are happening somewhere
in Nebraska*

8. Could the project provide the services it is currently providing with less bandwidth? What effect would a lesser level of bandwidth have? (The implications of using greater or lesser levels of telecommunications services are related to image transmission time. What would the be the impact if the health care activities for which you now use telecommunications took twice as long, or if they could be completed in half the time?)

It seems to be the best of the vendors presented in our state. I have been in meetings that discussed T-SDN and that "connecting" capability would be helpful for our rural health networks.

Justice. Hoiness are part of the issue. The other is the need to have the fastest connections where we have the greatest access and treatment issues.

9. What would the implications of having a greater level of bandwidth be?

1. Saved lives. Greater distance equates to longer transport times. Full speed, highest quality telecommunication services can help. Urban closeness should mean less need for top end services via tele.

2. Saved dollars. Distance creates expenses that could be saved for local area of high level tele. services when available.

10. Do you have e-mail? No ☐ Yes ☐

11. Do you have Internet access? No ☐ Yes ☐

If yes, do you incur long-distance charges by using it?

No ☐ Yes ☒

If yes, do you incur long-distance charges by using it?
 No ☐ Yes ☒ A real issue outside of Lincoln & Omaha
 Please estimate your number of hours of Internet use per month:

Please estimate your number of hours of Internet use per month:

12. If you have access to the Internet, please list any purposes other than e-mail (such as accessing databases such as Lexis/Nexis) for which you use it:

R=99%